

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 974

By Miller

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of our friend Victor Thompson.

WHEREAS, we were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of our beloved friend and colleague Victor Thompson, a longtime fixture on Capitol Hill who served with distinction as Chief Sergeant At Arms for the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thompson took his job seriously, and he truly loved interacting with the members of his legislative family, from the most influential committee chairman to the least experienced staff member; and

WHEREAS, Victor's knowledge of the inner workings of the General Assembly was phenomenal, and his predictions were always spot-on; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thompson was an important part of the legislative process and a trusted friend and confidante to members, lobbyists, staff, interns, and his fellow sergeants at arms alike; and

WHEREAS, Victor Thompson performed many valuable services as House Chief Sergeant At Arms, but he will perhaps be best remembered for his signature cries of "Express!" and "Members Only!" as he deftly guided the elevator between the Motlow Tunnel and the second floor of the State Capitol on House session days; and

WHEREAS, it seems like only yesterday that Victor could be found behind his desk in Legislative Plaza, dispensing advice, information, and per-diem checks with equal enthusiasm, a memory that we will always treasure; and

WHEREAS, to paraphrase John Donne, Victor Thompson was truly involved in mankind, and his death diminishes us all; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thompson is survived by his daughter, Madlynn Churchwell; grandchildren, Erin and Ariel Parker; siblings, Clariane Campbell, Trevia Thompson, and Arthur Thompson, Sr.; and a host of other relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his wife, Juanita Thompson; and

WHEREAS, Victor Thompson leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and intelligence in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional human being who meant so much to his friends and colleagues in the General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Victor Thompson, reflecting fondly upon his outstanding service as Chief Sergeant At Arms for the House of Representatives, his wry sense of humor, his loyalty to the General Assembly, and his contributions to the legislative process that made Capitol Hill a more enjoyable place to work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Thompson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.